

What is claimed is:

1. An image forming system that is capable of forming images on sheets and performing post-processing
5 on the sheets, comprising:
 - a display device;
 - a storage device that stores a plurality of maintenance items, and sub-maintenance items associated with respective ones of the maintenance items;
 - 10 a first determining device that determines whether or not a maintenance operation based on a selected one of the maintenance items has been completed;
 - a second determining device that is responsive to a determination of said first determining device that
15 the maintenance operation based on the selected maintenance item has been completed, for determining whether or not there is any sub-maintenance item associated with the selected maintenance item, by referring to said storage device; and
 - 20 a display control device that is responsive to a determination of said second determining device that there is at least one sub-maintenance item associated with the selected maintenance item, for causing said display device to display the at least one sub-
25 maintenance item.
2. An image forming system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the sub-maintenance items are each a

maintenance item based on which a maintenance operation needs to be carried out after completion of a maintenance operation based on an associated one of the maintenance items.

5 3. An image forming system as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a selecting device that is operable when a maintenance operation is to be carried out while an image forming operation is being executed, to select between execution of displaying of the at least one
10 sub-maintenance item after completion of the image forming operation and execution of displaying of the at least one sub-maintenance item after completion of the maintenance operation.

 4. An image forming system as claimed in claim 1,
15 further comprising a second display control device that is operable when the maintenance operation is executed while an operation of the image forming system other than an image forming operation thereof is being executed, to display the at least one sub-maintenance
20 item after completion of the maintenance operation.

 5. An image forming system as claimed in claim 1, further comprising an input device that enables a user to input an instruction for termination of the maintenance operation, and wherein said first
25 determining device is responsive to the instruction for termination of the maintenance operation via said input device, for determining that the maintenance operation

has been completed.

6. An image forming system including a plurality of processing modules that perform respective different operations, comprising:

5 a storage device that stores a plurality of maintenance items, and sub-maintenance items associated with respective ones of the maintenance items, for each of the plurality of processing modules;

a first determining device that determines whether
10 or not a maintenance operation based on a selected one of the maintenance items for a selected one of the plurality of processing modules has been completed;

a second determining device that is responsive to a determination of said first determining device that
15 the maintenance operation based on the selected maintenance item for the selected processing module has been completed, for determining whether or not there is any sub-maintenance item associated with the selected maintenance item for the selected processing module, by
20 referring to said storage device; and

a display control device that is responsive to a determination of said second determining device that there is at least one sub-maintenance item associated with the selected maintenance item for the selected
25 processing module, for causing said display device to display the at least one sub-maintenance item.

7. A program for causing an image forming system

to execute a maintenance method, the image forming system including a storage device that stores a plurality of maintenance items, and sub-maintenance items associated with respective ones of the
5 maintenance items, and being capable of forming images on sheets and performing post-processing on the sheets, the method comprising:

a first determining step of determining whether or not a maintenance operation based on a selected one of
10 the maintenance items has been completed;

a second determining step of determining whether or not there is any sub-maintenance item associated with the selected maintenance item, by referring to the storage device, in response to a determination in said
15 first determining step that the maintenance operation based on the selected maintenance item has been completed; and

a display control step of displaying at least one sub-maintenance item associated with the selected
20 maintenance item on a display device, in response to a determination in said second determining step that there is the at least one sub-maintenance item associated with the selected maintenance item.

8. A program as claimed in claim 7, wherein the
25 sub-maintenance items are each a maintenance item based on which a maintenance operation needs to be carried out after completion of a maintenance operation based

on an associated one of the maintenance items.

9. A program as claimed in claim 7, further comprising a selecting step of selecting between execution of displaying of the at least one sub-
5 maintenance item after completion of an image forming operation and execution of displaying of the at least one sub-maintenance item after completion of the maintenance operation while the image forming operation is being executed.

10 10. A program as claimed in claim 7, wherein said display control step comprises displaying the at least one sub-maintenance item after completion of the maintenance operation, when the maintenance operation is executed while an operation of the image forming
15 system other than an image forming operation thereof is being executed.

11. A program as claimed in claim 7, further comprising an input step of enabling a user to input an instruction for termination of the maintenance
20 operation, and wherein in said first determining step, it is determined that the maintenance operation has been completed when the user has inputted the instruction for termination of the maintenance operation in said input step.

25 12. A program for causing an image forming system to execute a maintenance method, the image forming system including a plurality of processing modules that

perform respective different operations, and a storage device that stores a plurality of maintenance items, and sub-maintenance items associated with respective ones of the maintenance items, for each of the
5 plurality of processing modules, and being capable of carrying out maintenance operation based on one of the processing modules that is not used in a job, during execution of the job, the method comprising:

a first determining step of determining whether or
10 not a maintenance operation based on a selected one of the maintenance items for a selected one of the plurality of processing modules has been completed;

a second determining step of determining whether or not there is any sub-maintenance item associated
15 with the selected maintenance item for the selected processing module, by referring to said storage device, in response to a determination in said first determining step that the maintenance operation based on the selected maintenance item for the selected
20 processing module has been completed; and

a display control step of displaying, at least one sub-maintenance item associated with the selected maintenance item for the selected processing module, in response to a determination in said second determining
25 step that there is the at least one sub-maintenance item associated with the selected maintenance item for the selected processing module.